Operation Iragi Freedom II

"Telling the First Team's Story"

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Last Man Standing:

# Soldier Spoils Muqtada Militia's Victory Dance



By Staff Sgt. Rebekah-mae Bruns, 39th Brigade Public Affairs

Spc. Sean Sherlock, 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry, stands atop a roof in Baghdad, Iraq. His marksmanship proved vital in an encounter with private militia.

## Hai Sumar Soccer Teams Receive New Uniforms

By 1st Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

In the Hai Sumar neighborhood of Baghdad, there are currently eight teams that have been formed and are ready for action. The only thing they don't have is uniforms.

With help from the Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC), Alpha Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment, purchased and distributed new uniforms to the teams during a ceremony at the Al Ma'ali School in Hai Sumar.

After an opening speech

by Mr. Abdol Rahim Kalof, chairman of the NAC, gifts were presented to the 'Stallion' battalion commander, Lt. Col. Carter, and the 'Ace' company commander, Capt. Jon Meredith, to show thanks and the respect the NAC and the people of Hai Sumar have for the two commanders as well as all of the Soldiers in the battalion

Lt. Col. Carter, the battalion commander, Capt. Jon Meredith, Co. A. commander and members of the Neighborhood Advisory Council attended the event. Carter expressed his thanks and the importance of continuing the growing friendship between the people of Hai Sumar and the coalition forces in his speech to the audience. He also promised a soccer match between the Soldiers of the Stallion Battalion and the teams in Hai Sumar.

After the speech, the uniforms were then distributed to the teams. They consisted of a jersey, shorts, socks and a new pair of soccer cleats. New soccer balls were also provided by the 'Aces' to facilitate the training of the newly clothed teams.

By Staff Sgt. Rebekah-mae Bruns

39th Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

CAMP VOLUNTEER-Among the lined aisles of groceries and hurried shoppers, a small but striking 4-year-old girl tugs on a stranger for attention.

"My daddy's a hero," she announces proudly.

The father, Spc. Sean Sherlock, 27, of Eugene, Ore., is in Iraq with the 39th Brigade's 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry.

"I should be back in time for her to start kindergarten," said Sherlock, sitting on a cot that now serves as a transportable bed.

Though Sherlock's daughter may not be old enough to fully understand the expressions she uses or the full meas-

Continued on Page 3

The soccer teams in Hai Sumar were very grateful to the purchase and distribution of the uniforms.

Many more projects are being planned in the neighborhood to continue to improve the quality of life. Some of the projects include new streetlights on all the streets, a neighborhood watch program, and many street repairs and repaving projects.

The soccer uniforms for the Hai Sumar teams were just the beginning of a long friendship between the Stallions and the citizens of Hai Sumar.



# Hero of the Week



## Camp Eagle's 'Legal Guy' is the Task Force 1-12 Cavalry Hero of the Week



By 1st Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs Office

Spc. Nicholas Brown, a legal clerk with the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, has been serving with the 1st Cavalry Division for nearly two years, and plans to attend law school after completing his service in the Army.

#### By Capt. Tom Miers 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment

One of Spc. Nicholas Brown's primary jobs is to assist with courts martial and handle other punitive violations of Army Regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. He also assists other Soldiers with free expertise in preparing wills, Powers of Attorney, and many other types of legal documents.

#### Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

Do you understand?
I don't understand

de-tif-te-him? meda af-te-him "I am pleased to be serving my country in a way that directly affects our day-to-day life back in the United States," Brown said. "My role as a Soldier in the Army keeps me extremely busy, especially in the deployed environment that we are in."

During March 2004, Brown deployed with his fellow Soldiers in the 1st Cavalry Division as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. Prior to his deployment Brown received intensive training in preparation for military operations in South West Asia.

Part of his training included a one-month deployment to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin in southern California. This training facility is used to replicate many of the unique cultural and tactical situations faced by Soldiers in combat so they can learn from their successes and mistakes.

Brown, along with the other Soldiers in his unit learned a lot of valuable lessons about operating in Iraq before they actually deployed.

Currently, Brown is "the legal guy," working in Camp Eagle, which is located on the northeast side of Baghdad. He said he's proud of the work his unit is doing, but also misses his family and friends while serving in Baghdad.

"We are continuously working to help better the lives of the people in Iraq, and I am proud to be a part of that cause," he said. "I would like to say hello from Baghdad to my friends and family; to Kristan, my mom and dad, my two brothers, and my two wonderful kids, Dylan and Ellerie. I love you all and I can't wait to see you again when I come home."

The 1st Cavalry Division is scheduled to redeploy back to Fort Hood in April next year. Brown is planning to attend law school after he completes his service in the Army.

Brown is originally from Spokane, Wash.. He graduated from North Central High School in 1998. He enlisted in the United States Army in March 2002 as a legal specialist. He arrived at Fort Hood, Texas in August 2002 and was assigned to Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry.







Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office

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#### May 19, 2004

# On the Home Front

#### As High School Graduation Ceremonies Near, Plans for Videocasts Made

▶ From AP

KILLEEN, Texas- Some school districts will put high school graduation ceremonies on the Internet or by videoconference so deployed Fort Hood Soldiers can watch.

Thousands of Fort Hood Soldiers have deployed to Iraq since war broke out last year. The Killeen Independent School District is part of the Webcast program, along with Salado, Temple, Copperas Cove and Belton. Viewing is available on the Killeen ISD website, plus via the Army in Baghdad. Killeen ISD spokesman Bob Massey says all eight graduation ceremonies will be at the Bell County Expo Center in Belton.

The first ceremony is May 25th. The last two graduation ceremonies, at different times of the day, are May 30th. A deployed parent also can speak one-on-one with a graduating senior via private video conference.

So far more than 250 soonto-be graduates have signed up to do so.

www.killeenisd.org

#### Bell County Expo Graduation Schedule

(Times are Central Standard Time)
May 25, 2004 7:30PM
Salado High School
May 27, 2004 8:00PM
Belton High School
May 28, 2004 7:30PM
Copperas Cove High School
May 29, 2004 10:00AM

Temple High School May 29, 2004 3:00PM Killeen High School May 29, 2004 8:00PM Ellison High School May 30, 2004 2:00PM Harker Heights High School May 30, 2004 6:00PM Shoemaker High School



#### Sherlock Helps Win Gunner's Duel with Mahdi's Army

Continued from Page 1 ure of her father's duty, there is an element of truth to her words.

Recently, while moving through the dubious streets of Baghdad, Sherlock helped to prevent the loss of American lives when he eliminated a lead gunner from a segment of Mahdi's Army – a known private militia created by the Islamic extremist Muqtada al-Sadr.

"It came down to a gunner's duel," said Sherlock. "And he wasn't ready."

Sherlock, a veteran of the 3rd Infantry Division, joined the Oregon Army National Guard while attending Lane Community College. He had missed the lifestyle after leaving the active Army and wanted to do something civic minded, something with purpose – the National Guard was it.

"It doesn't matter how bad your day is going," Sherlock said. "You know you have a broader purpose because you are serving society."

As the deployment for Iraq approached, so did Sherlock's termination date with the Guard. He had thought about moving over to the Coast Guard and trying something a little different, but he felt like he owed the Army something. He was good with machine guns - he had worked with them for four years. In fact, he had trained most of the gunners in his company. So, he decided to stay for the deployment to Iraq.

After arriving in Baghdad, it wasn't long before operations were in full swing and assignments for his platoon came rolling in. The assignments ranged anywhere from cordon and search to convoy escort.

On this particular day his platoon was the convoy escort and Sherlock was the platoon's lead gunner on a 240 Belgium Fabrique National machine gun.

The mission – escort an American civilian, who worked for Kellogg Brown & Root (KBR), safely to the Baghdad airport for vacation.

Traveling down the road under the Middle Eastern sun, an American freightliner on the side of the road caught their attention - the trailer was flipped and the back wheels of the truck were blown off.

People with weapons and

black armbands were looting the vehicle, dancing and celebrating as a separate individual videotaped. It was Mahdi's Army, the group responsible for the recent surge in attacks on American Soldiers and civilians.

"They were celebrating the fact that they had destroyed the vehicle," Sherlock said as he sat cleaning his dismantled weapon. "They were jumping around, dancing."

Within moments a firefight ensued.

Sherlock quickly laid down suppressive fire sweeping across the area first eliminating a man with an AK-47. He then swept back across taking out the Mahdi element's primary gunner, who was firing an RPK medium machine gun while trying to gain cover behind a vehicle.

Like the movement of a hummingbird's wings, the firefight was over as quick as it began.

The gentleman from KBR crouched down in the seat. His vacation was just beginning.

"I think we surprised their victory dance," Sherlock said. "I think we spoiled their party."

#### Today in History May 19

From historychannel.com
1588 Spanish Armada sails
1935 T.E. Lawrence, known
to the world as Lawrence of
Arabia, dies

1943 Churchill and FDR plot D-Day

1969 Six-year-old Jodie Foster makes her show business debut, on the TV show *Mayberry R.F.D.* 1972 South Vietnamese fight to open road to An

1991 Racer Willy T. Ribbs became the first African-American driver to qualify for the Indy 500

#### Today in Cav History

1951 - A full scale determined attack released a deluge of several definitely identified Red Divisions and elements of others against the front of the 1st Cavalry Division. The Division started moving north to attack Line Topeka. Line secured five days later.

Army rocket attack destroys the ammunition supply dump area of Camp Evans.

# Sports/Leisure

## Local CCHS Golfer Commits to UMHB

From Killeen Daily Herald
 COPPERAS COVE,
 Texas- Following in the foot-

Texas- Following in the footsteps of current Bulldawgs golf coach Justin Schulze, Copperas Cove High School senior Nate Reding will become the latest CCHS product to pursue the sport on the collegiate level.

With family, teammates and coaches in attendance, Reding committed his clubs to the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor on Monday afternoon.

It was an emotional moment for Reding, who, as the elder statesman of the first Cove golf squad to win a district title since the 60s, was a key part of the team's success over the past four years.

"It feels good knowing I was on a high school team that was able to win district and dominate in our area. We've worked hard ever since I've been a freshman. I would like to be able to come back and continue playing because we are getting better," said Reding

#### Copperas Cove Bulldawgs



of leaving the program that has made him into the golfer he is today. "It's kind of a bummer, but I am really excited about getting to play on the next level."

Reding joins a Crusaders' team that finished second in the American Southwest Conference last year and was ranked 15th in the nation. Coach Randy Mann, in his fourth year with UMHB, led the program to a conference championship in 2001, and believes that the Cove senior will complement an already talented squad intent on pursuing another conference championship.

"I've watched him over the last two years and I think he's got a lot that he brings to us," Mann said. "He's (Reding) a very positive individual, a consistent player and a hard worker, and that will carry over to our team."

Schulze said Reding, who finished third three times, second twice and placed in the top 10 10 times during his career, would be a good fit for UMHB.

"They're getting a good one," said Schulze, who won a national championship at Temple College before finishing his career at UT-Arlington. "It takes a lot of hard work to get to the level (college) he's going to be at. He certainly worked hard to get there. He's learned how to be a good leader over the past year, on and off the green."

In addition to its excellent golf program, UMHB was also attractive to Reding because of its close proximity to Copperas Cove.

"With Belton being only 45 minutes away from Cove, I don't have to stress out because I am close to home," Reding said.

#### TV GUIDE Spectrum PACIFIC Popular Tonight Show with The Cable Guy NBA Fastbreak/ Mechanics for Jay Leno/ 18:00 Totally NASCAR 17:00 The Late Show with Kids/ David Letterman Liberty's Kids The Wild Jeopardy/ SportsCenter Access Thornberrys/ 19:00 Headline News Hollywood Spongebob 19:30 Squarepants ESPNews/ My Dog Skip Baseball Tonight/ The Simpsons/ 20:00 Headline News MLB - Minnesota The Cosby Twins @ Toronto Show Blue Jays 8 Simple Rules.../ GIA 21:45 American Idol 21:00 The Bernie Mac Show Fear Factor Star Trek: Next 22:00 Generation

# SCOTES MLB AMERICAN LEAGUE

Toronto 5 Minnesota 3

Chicago 4 Cleveland 2

Boston 7 Tampa Bay 3

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

Montreal 3 Milwaukee 2

Philadelphia 8 Los Angeles 7

San Diego @ Pittsburgh - game postponed due to rain.

Houston 9 Florida 2

Colorado 8 Cincinnati 3

New York 5 St. Louis 4

Arizona 2 Atlanta o

San Francisco 1 Chicago 0



#### NHI

#### (Best of 7 series) Eastern Conference

Tampa Bay 4 Philadelphia 2 (Tampa Bay leads series 3-2)

#### Western Conference

Calgary 3 (Monday) San Jose o (Calgary leads series 3-2}



#### NBA CONFERENCE

SEMIFINALS (Best of 7 series)

Eastern Conference Indiana 73

Miami 70 (Indiana wins series 4-2)

Western Conference Minnesota (Next : Wednesday) Sacramento (Series tied 3-3)